

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (currently amended). A system for distribution ~~to a condominium and/or community environment of digital information signals transmitted according to different standards~~ to a plurality of sockets, at least some of said ~~digital information~~ signals being reserved ~~digital signals which are reserved to~~ intended for reception only by predetermined signal sockets of said condominium and/or community environment, and the remainder of said ~~digital information~~ signals, ~~if any,~~ being nonreserved ~~digital~~ signals intended for reception by all of said sockets, said system, comprising

receiving means for receiving said digital information signals,

converting means operatively connected to said receiving means for ~~amplifying and frequency~~ converting the ~~frequencies of said digital reserved~~ signals, for allocation among a plurality of channels within a band of reserved frequencies, each of said channels being a personal channel only receivable at one of said predetermined sockets in response to control signals received from said one of said predetermined sockets,

mixing means operatively connected to said receiving means and to said converting means,

a distribution cable operatively connected between said mixing means and each of said plurality of sockets, said mixing means ~~for mixing distributing~~ said reserved and non-reserved signals to said ~~on a distribution network~~ plurality of sockets over said distribution cable,

~~a plurality of signal sockets operatively connected to said means for mixing for receiving said mixed reserved and non-reserved digital signals,~~

band-stop filter means ~~for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals into reserved personal channels, each of said personal channels being reserved to a corresponding one of said predetermined signal sockets, and forbidden to the remaining sockets~~ means operatively connected to said distribution cable ~~to each of said predetermined sockets for allowing access to a corresponding personal channel, said means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received digital signals into personal channels being controlled through respective user control means~~ for blocking all of said reserved signals, and

band-pass filter means operatively connected in parallel with said band-stop filter means, for passing to each socket only those blocked reserved signals intended for reception thereat.

2 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment, according to claim 1~~<sup>54</sup>, wherein said ~~means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals in personal channels~~ means

~~make use of~~ the same type of modulation for each predetermined socket.

3 (cancelled).

4 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 1, wherein the further comprising a distribution network comprises which includes MMDS and/or LMDS networks.

5 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ each personal channel is 8 MHz wide.

6 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 1, wherein the ~~digital reserved signals being present in~~ digital reserved signals ~~being present in~~ are present in ~~said~~ each personal channel ~~is~~ are QAM modulated.

7 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ each personal channel is ~~contained in~~ within a frequency band between 47 and 862 MHz.

8 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 7, wherein said frequency band ranges from 230 to 445 MHz.

9 (cancelled).

10 (cancelled).

11 (cancelled).

12 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim ~~15~~<sup>4</sup>, wherein the selection of the reserved digital signals, the frequencies of which are to be converted in said personal channels, ~~is performed through~~ further comprising a plurality of return-channel modules respectively operatively connected to said predetermined signal sockets for exchanging signals on a return-channel in order to select the reserved signals the frequencies of which are to be converted into a personal channel.

13 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is FSK modulated.

14 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is PSK modulated.

15 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is QPSK modulated.

16 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is QAM modulated.

17 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein bidirectional communication is performed under TDMA procedure.

18 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein said return--channel has a band width of 128 KHz or a multiple thereof.

19 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein said return--channel is has a frequency between 41 and 46.5 MHz.

20 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein said return--channel is provided on a said distribution coaxial cable of the distribution network.

21 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein each return--channel module operated by a user makes use of a return--channel which is not accessible to any other user of the system operating on a different return--channel module.

22 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 12, wherein said return-channel is radiofrequency irradiated.

23 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 1, wherein the converting means ~~for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals into personal channels~~ comprises a transmodulator.

24 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 1, wherein comprising a user terminal and an IRD receiver-decoder are provided at ~~operatively connected to each the signal socket, and remote control means~~ which can be operated by a same remote control adapted to operate said user terminal and an IRD receiver-decoder.

25 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 1, wherein said converting means comprises a single transmodulator device ~~comprises~~ having two or more means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals into personal channels.

26 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 25, wherein said transmodulator device comprises means for tuning, which are adapted to perform the selection of said reserved ~~digital~~ signals within at least two frequency ranges, and means for demodulating which are adapted to demodulate at least two ~~digital~~ reserved signals transmitted with different standards.

27 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 26, wherein said transmodulator device includes at least two tuners for the selection of ~~digital~~ reserved signals, and at least two demodulators of said reserved ~~digital~~ signals.

28 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 26, wherein said transmodulator device also includes a switch adapted for receiving the ~~digital~~ reserved signals coming from said demodulators.

29 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 28, wherein said transmodulator device also comprises a modulator for remodulating the ~~an~~ output signal of said switch.

30 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 29, wherein said transmodulator device also comprises a converter for converting the frequencies of the remodulated output signal of said ~~modulator switch~~ into a personal channel.

31 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim ~~125~~, further comprising user control means, wherein said control signals being generated by said user control means, said user control means being are operatively connected to said sockets and adapted to generate one or more upstream digital signals for transmission to be transmitted said converting means and to convert their frequencies into the personal channels, said system further comprising

selection and handling means for selecting said upstream digital signals, and

means for the transmission of said upstream signals to a satellite through an antenna and/or to a service provider through a cable.

32 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 31, wherein further comprising transmodulator means and ~~said~~ second selection means which operate respectively on ~~the~~ received downstream signals or on upstream signals QAM modulated under SCPC procedure.

33 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim ~~31~~32, wherein the upstream signals and downstream signals are simultaneously present in the same personal channel.

34 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 33, wherein the upstream signals and the downstream signals occupy frequency bands which do not overlap.

35 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim ~~31~~32, wherein both the upstream signals and the downstream signals are not simultaneously present in the same personal channel.

36 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 31, wherein said transmodulator means and said selection and handling means are housed in a single container.



37 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim ~~43~~31, wherein the user control means comprises a smart card and a receiver adapted to ~~perform an access function to a~~ plurality of conditioned access services, by reading the information contained in ~~a~~ said smart card, and wherein said information contained in said smart card controls the means for converting the frequencies of one or more of the received reserved digital signals in ~~the~~ a personal channel.

38 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 37, wherein said information contained in the smart card comprises information for tuning said transmodulator ~~means~~ device.

39 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 37, wherein said information contained in the smart card comprises information for the tuning of transponder preselection means.

40 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 39, wherein the information for the tuning of the transponder preselection means is selection information for the bands of the channels to be tuned.

41 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 39, wherein information for the tuning of the transponder preselection

means comprises information for determining the polarization of the channels to be tuned.

42 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 38, wherein said information contained in the smart card comprises frequency information for the channels to be tuned.

43 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 37, wherein said information contained in the smart card further comprises frequency information for said personal channel.

44 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 37, wherein the selection means and the smart card contain respective electronic keys, whose congruence enables the operation of said system.

45 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 37, wherein the smart card comprises a microprocessor and the control means ~~contain~~ comprises a device for writing data in a program memory of a said microprocessor ~~contained in the smart card.~~

46 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 45, wherein said program memory ~~is~~ comprises an EEPROM type memory.

47 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 45,

wherein the device for writing data in a program memory of a microprocessor contained in the smart card operates on data sent ~~to the control means~~ by a modem.

48 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 45, wherein said device for writing data in a program memory of a microprocessor contained in the smart card operates on data sent ~~to the control means~~ by means of ~~the~~ service information contained in ~~the~~ a received digital signal.

49 (currently amended). A system ~~for distribution to a condominium and/or community environment,~~ according to claim 1, wherein said ~~means for allowing access to said personal channels~~ band-stop filter means is adapted to prevent the passage of signals generated inside a further distribution network associated with a ~~signal~~ socket inside a dwelling.

50 (cancelled).

51 (cancelled).

52 (cancelled).

53 (cancelled).

54 (new). A system according to claim 1, wherein said reserved signals are digital signals.

55 (new). A method of distributing received information signals to a plurality of sockets of a building, at least some of said information signals being reserved signals which are reserved to predetermined sockets and the reminder of said information

signals being nonreserved signals intended to be available to all of said sockets, comprising the steps of:

distributing said nonreserved signals in predetermined frequency bands,

frequency converting the reserved signals into personal channels of a reserved frequency band in response to control signals received from said sockets, and

receiving the nonreserved signals allocated in said predetermined frequency band and the reserved signals allocated in a personal channel at a predetermined socket.

56 (new). Method according to claim 55, wherein said reserved signals are digital signals.

57 (new). Method according to claim 55, further comprising the steps of demodulating the reserved digital signals and remodulating said signals in a sole type of modulation before frequency converting the reserved signals into personal channels of said reserved frequency band.

58 (new). Method according to claim 56, comprising the step of recovering the bit error rate.